

Current Class: CONFIDENTIAL  
Current Handling: n/a

UNCLASSIFIED

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PTQ4212

E24

PAGE 01 CARACA 00995 01 OF 02 122049Z  
ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	CTME-00	DINT-00
	DODE-00	DOT-00	PERC-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXIM-01	E-00
	FAAE-00	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01
	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-01	OMB-01
	OPIC-01	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00
	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	EPAE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02
	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/010W			

-----859814 122049Z /38

O 122027Z APR 02  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5466  
INFO USDOC WASHDC  
DOE WASHDC  
USINT HAVANA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY QUITO  
AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
OPEC COLLECTIVE

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(D)

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 000995

E.O. 12958: DECL: 4/11/12  
TAGS: ECON, EPET, ENRG, VE  
SUBJECT: PDVSA: BACK TO NORMAL  
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1. CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR CHARLES S. SHAPIRO FOR REASONS  
1.5 (B) AND (D).

2. (C) SUMMARY: TELEVISED SCENES OF JOY HAVE MARKED THE  
RETURN OF PETROLEOS DE VENEZUELA (PDVSA) EMPLOYEES TO THEIR  
LA CAMPINA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. FIRED EMPLOYEES HAVE  
BEEN REINSTATED. FORMER VICE PRESIDENTS KARL MAZEIKA,  
EDUARDO PRASELJ AND VICENZO PAGLIONE WILL ACT AS  
COORDINATORS IN THE SELECTION OF A NEW BOARD. PDVSA  
EXECUTIVES UNDERLINE THAT THE COMPANY SHOULD RETURN TO  
NORMAL OPERATIONS BY EARLY NEXT WEEK. SHIPMENTS ARE  
EXPECTED TO RESUME TODAY. PDVSA SPOKESPERSON STATED  
PUBLICLY THAT NO OIL WILL BE SENT TO CUBA

B1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE/ADHMAN, DAS, A/RPS  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 11 APR 2012  
DATE/CASE ID: 30 AUG 2004 200400110

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END SUMMARY.

B1

PDVSA GOVERNABILITY  
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3. (U) THE PARRA BOARD RESIGNED ON APRIL 11 IN WHAT MANY HERE DESCRIBE AS EX-PRESIDENT CHAVEZ'S LAST DITCH SCHEME TO DEFUSE THE CRISIS BY TRYING FINALLY TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PDVSA DISSIDENTS. IN VIRTUALLY HIS FIRST ACT AS INTERIM PRESIDENT, PEDRO CARMONA ESTANGA REINSTATED THE FIRED/RETIRED/REMOVED EXECUTIVES TO THEIR POSITIONS. KARL MAZEIKA, EDUARDO PRASELJ AND VICENZO PAGLIONE, THREE OF THE FOUR VICE PRESIDENTS ON THE LAMEDA BOARD, WERE TAPPED TO FORM A HIGH LEVEL COORDINATING COMMITTEE UNTIL THE DESIGNATION OF A NEW PDVSA PRESIDENT AND BOARD. SOME HAVE SUGGESTED THAT GENERAL LAMEDA MIGHT BE RE-APPOINTED AS

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PRESIDENT BUT HE IS ALSO BEING MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE "MILITARY" PERSON ON THE TRANSITION TEAM. LUIS GIUSTI, NOW ON HIS WAY TO CARACAS, IS ALSO SURE TO HAVE A ROLE IN DECIDING VENEZUELA'S FUTURE ENERGY POLICIES.

4. (U) EDGAR PAREDES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REFINING SUPPLY AND TRADING, (SUSPENDED ON APRIL 5) RESUMED THE ROLE HE HAS PLAYED AS SPOKESPERSON FOR THE PAST SIX WEEKS, AND ADDRESSED A NOON PRESS CONFERENCE. PAREDES UNDERLINED THAT PDVSA EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN WORKING SINCE THE NIGHT OF APRIL 11 TO RESTORE NORMAL OPERATIONS. HE NOTED THAT THE DOMESTIC MARKET IS NOW GUARANTEED WHILE VENEZUELA'S EXPORT PARTNERS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO BEING FULLY SUPPLIED AS WELL. FULL OPERABILITY IS EXPECTED BY EARLY NEXT WEEK. PAREDES ALSO CALLED FOR TOLERANCE IN DEALING WITH PDVSA EMPLOYEES WHO DID NOT STRIKE.

CUBA CONNECTION TO END?  
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5. (C) PAREDES ALSO SAID, "WE NOT GOING TO SEND EVEN ONE BARREL OF OIL TO CUBA," WHICH DREW THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE.

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B1

BACK TO NORMAL

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ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	CTME-00	DINT-00
	DODE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXIM-01	E-00	FAAE-00
	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	L-00
	VCE-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OES-01	OMB-01	OPIC-01
	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00
	TRSE-00	USIE-00	EPAE-00	PMB-00	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	/010W					

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CARACAS 000995

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7. (U)

REFINERY ACTIVITIES WILL BE  
RESUMED WITH CARE FOR SAFETY REASONS, BUT SUPPLY IS  
GUARANTEED BY HIGH STORAGE LEVELS UNTIL PRODUCTION IS BACK  
TO NORMAL. A QUICK SURVEY OF U.S. OIL COMPANIES REVEALS  
THAT THEIR PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES ARE AT NORMAL LEVELS.

SHAPIRO

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